

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method comprising:
retrieving an enhanced presence ping bit at a client;
identifying, at the client, that the enhanced presence ping bit is enabled, wherein the enablement of the enhanced presence ping bit corresponds to an enhanced presence ping mode;
collecting enhanced status information at the client based upon the identification, wherein the enhanced status information is selected from the group consisting of a total packet number, a signal strength, and a system power state; and
sending the enhanced status information from the client to an access point over a wireless network.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining, at the client, that a timer is enabled, the timer corresponding to a time at which to send the enhanced status information;
detecting that the enabled timer has expired; and
performing the collecting and the sending in response to the detecting.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
receiving a ping request at the client from the access point; and
performing the collecting and the sending in response to receiving the ping request.

4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
receiving an enhanced presence ping control packet at the client from the access point; and
enabling the enhanced presence ping bit at the client in response to receiving the enhanced presence ping control packet.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the access point is adapted to send the enhanced presence ping control packet to the client in response to receiving an administrator request from an administrator, and wherein the access point is also adapted to provide the collected enhanced status information to the administrator.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the wireless network functions as a shared transmission medium.
8. (Currently Amended) An information handling system comprising:
one or more processors;
a memory accessible by the processors;
one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by the processors;
one or more registers;
one or more timers; and
a enhanced presence ping tool for providing enhanced status information, the enhanced presence ping tool comprising software code effective to:
retrieve an enhanced presence ping bit at a client from one of the registers;

identify, at the client, that the enhanced presence ping bit is enabled, wherein the enablement of the enhanced presence ping bit corresponds to an enhanced presence ping mode;

collect enhanced status information at the client from one of the nonvolatile storage devices based upon the identification, wherein the enhanced status information is selected from the group consisting of a total packet number, a signal strength, and a system power state; and

send the enhanced status information from the client to an access point over a wireless network.

9. (Currently Amended) The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the software code is further effective to:

determine, at the client, that one of the timers is enabled, the timer corresponding to a time at which to send the enhanced status information;

detect that the enabled timer has expired; and

perform the collecting and the sending in response to the detecting.

10. (Currently Amended) The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the software code is further effective to:

receive a ping request at the client from the access point; and

perform the collecting and the sending in response to receiving the ping request.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the software code is further effective to:

receive an enhanced presence ping control packet at the client from the access point; and

enable the enhanced presence ping bit at the client in response to receiving the enhanced presence ping control packet.

13. (Currently Amended) The information handling system of claim 12 wherein the access point is adapted to send the enhanced presence ping control packet to the client in response to receiving an administrator request from an administrator, and wherein the access point is also adapted to provide the collected enhanced status information to the administrator.

14. (Currently Amended) A program product comprising:

computer readable code stored on a tangible medium, the computer readable code containing instructions for execution by a computer, which, when executed by the computer, cause the computer to implement a method of processing an enhanced presence ping request, the method comprising: computer operable medium having computer program code, the computer program code being effective to:

~~retrieve~~ retrieving an enhanced presence ping bit at a client;

~~identify~~ identifying, at the client, that the enhanced presence ping bit is enabled, wherein the enablement of the enhanced presence ping bit corresponds to an enhanced presence ping mode;

~~collect~~ collecting enhanced status information at the client based upon the identifying, wherein the enhanced status information is selected from the group consisting of a total packet number, a signal strength, and a system power state; and

~~send~~ sending the enhanced status information from the client to an access point over a wireless network.

15. (Currently Amended) The program product of claim 14 wherein the method further comprises: software code is further effective to:

~~determine~~ determining, at the client, that a timer is enabled, the timer corresponding to a time at which to send the enhanced status information;
~~detect~~ detecting that the enabled timer has expired; and
~~perform~~ performing the collecting and the sending in response to the detecting.

16. (Currently Amended) The program product of claim 14 wherein the method further comprises: ~~software code is further effective to~~:
~~receive~~ receiving a ping request at the client from the access point; and
~~perform~~ performing the collecting and the sending in response to receiving the ping request.
17. (Canceled)
18. (Currently Amended) The program product of claim 14 wherein method further comprises: ~~software code is further effective to~~:
~~receive~~ receiving an enhanced presence ping control packet at the client from the access point; and
~~enable~~ enabling the enhanced presence ping bit at the client in response to receiving the enhanced presence ping control packet.
19. (Currently Amended) The program product of claim 18 wherein the access point is adapted to send the enhanced presence ping control packet to the client in response to receiving an administrator request from an administrator, and wherein the access point is also adapted to provide the collected enhanced status information to the administrator.
20. (Original) The program product of claim 14 wherein the wireless network functions as a shared transmission medium.